

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of call processing comprising:
receiving, at a softswitch executing on a computer,
a plurality of calls for switching;
5 monitoring at least one criteria associated with
operation of the computer; and
based on the monitoring, limiting the number of
calls processed by the computer.
- 10 2. The method of Claim 1, wherein the computer has
a processing system and a memory, and the softswitch has
a plurality of signaling subsystems, and wherein the at
least one criteria is selected from the group consisting
15 of the amount of usage of at least a portion of the
processing system, the amount of usage of the memory, and
the number of the plurality of calls that are being
processed by each of the plurality of subsystems.
- 20 3. The method of Claim 1, wherein the computer
comprises a memory, and wherein the at least one criteria
comprises the amount of usage of the memory.
- 25 4. The method of Claim 1, wherein the computer
comprises a processor, and wherein the at least one
criteria comprises the amount of usage of the processor.
- 30 5. The method of Claim 1, wherein the softswitch
has a plurality of signaling subsystems and the at least
one criteria comprises the number of the plurality of
calls that are being processed by each of the plurality
of subsystems.

6. The method of Claim 3, and further comprising limiting the number of calls in response to determining that the amount of usage of the memory exceeds
5 approximately 80-85% of the capacity of the memory.

7. The method of Claim 4, and further comprising limiting the number of calls in response to determining the amount of usage of the processor exceeds
10 approximately 90-95% of the amount of capacity of the processor.

8. The method of Claim 5, and further comprising limiting the number of calls processed by the computer in
15 response to determining that the number of the plurality of calls being processed by the computer exceeds approximately 50% of capacity of buffers of the softswitch for processing calls.

20 9. The method of Claim 1, wherein limiting the number of calls processed by the computer comprises accepting no additional calls processed by the computer.

25 10. The method of Claim 1, wherein limiting the number of calls processed by the computer comprises limiting the number of calls processed by the computer until the at least one criteria associated with operation of the computer reaches an acceptable level.

11. The method of Claim 10, wherein limiting the number of calls comprises accepting no additional calls until the at least one criteria associated with operation of the computer reaches an acceptable level.

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12. The method of Claim 11, wherein the computer comprises a memory and wherein the acceptable level is an amount of usage of the memory that is 75-80% of the capacity of the memory.

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13. The method of Claim 11, wherein the computer comprises a processor and wherein the acceptable level is the amount of usage of the processor that is 90% of the capacity of the processor.

14. A system for call processing comprising:
a computer having a processor and an associated
memory;

a softswitch operating on the computer for
5 processing calls; and

program code stored on the memory and operable to:

monitor at least one criteria associated with
the operation of the computer; and

in response to determining that at least one
10 criteria exceeds an acceptable level, limit
additional calls processed by the softswitch until
the at least one criteria reaches a desired level.

15 15. The system of Claim 14, wherein the at least
one criteria is selected from the group consisting of the
amount of usage of the processor, the amount of usage of
the memory, and the number of calls processed by the
softswitch at any given time.

20 16. The system of Claim 14, wherein the softswitch
comprises a plurality of signaling subsystems and wherein
the at least one criteria is selected from the group
consisting of the amount of usage of the processor, the
amount of usage of the memory, and the number of calls
25 processed by at least one of the signaling subsystems at
any given time.

17. The system of Claim 14, wherein the at least
once criteria is the amount of usage by the processor.

18. The system of Claim 14, wherein the at least one criteria is the amount of usage by the memory.

19. The system of Claim 14, wherein the at least
5 one criteria is the number of calls being processed by the softswitch at any given time.

20. The system of Claim 17, wherein limiting
10 additional calls comprises limiting additional calls in response to determining that the amount of usage of the processor exceeds 90-95% of the capacity of the processor.

21. The system of Claim 18, wherein limiting
15 additional calls comprises limiting additional calls in response to determining that the amount of usage of the memory exceeds 80-85% of the capacity of the memory.

22. A method of call processing comprising:

receiving, at a softswitch executing on a computer, a plurality of calls, the computer having a processor and an associated memory;

5 monitoring a plurality of criteria associated with operation of the computer, the plurality of criteria including the amount of usage of the processor, the amount of usage of the memory, and the number of calls being processed by the
10 softswitch;

in response to determining that one of the plurality of criteria exceeds an acceptable level, blocking any additional calls from being processed by the softswitch until the one criteria that
15 exceeded an acceptable level reaches an acceptable return level.

23. The method of Claim 21, wherein the acceptable level for the amount of memory usage is 80-85% of the
20 capacity of the memory.

24. The method of Claim 21, wherein the acceptable level for the amount of processor usage is 90-95% of the capacity of the processor.

25 25. The method of Claim 21, wherein the return level for the amount of memory usage is 75-80% of the capacity of the memory.

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26. The method of Claim 21, wherein the return level for the amount of processor usage is 85-90% of the capacity of the processor.